Remarks

Claims 1-6 and 8 are pending in the subject application. Claims 7 and 9-24 have been withdrawn as being directed to non-elected subject matter. By this amendment, claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 1-6 and 8 are currently before the Examiner for consideration. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

The amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion. These amendments should not be construed as an indication of the applicants' agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejections of record. Favorable consideration of the claim now presented, in view of the remarks and amendments set forth herein, is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1-6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Please note that the claims have been amended herein to address the issues raised by the examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. The applicants respectfully traverse this ground for rejection to the extent that it might be applied to the claims now presented for examination.

Please note that claim 1 has been amended herein to address the issue raised by the Examiner, and such that its language is consistent with claim 8, to which this rejection was not applied.

In view of the claim amendment set forth herein, the applicants respectfully submit that the claims now presented for examination clearly and unambiguously set forth the metes and bounds of the claimed invention. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, the applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account 19-0065.

The applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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